

Scripture Reading: Job 38:1-11

It is admirable for a man to take his son fishing, but there is a special place in heaven for the father who takes his daughter shopping. —John Sinor



Today is Father's Day and across the country men are enjoying greeting cards that say something along the lines of: "Thanks Dad, for being the best dad ever." My father passed away a number of years ago. Was he a perfect father? No. But he did many good things, and gave me a lot to think about.

When I was 18, dad gave me a pair of hiking boots. They had a cushioned tongue and collar, eyelets securely sewn into the leather, and a Carrarmato lug pattern in Vibram outsoles.

I still have those boots. They've been all over the world. They have carried me over thousands of miles of trails, roads and city streets. These boots have stories to tell. That's why I can't get rid of them. When I see those aging boots, I see a metaphor for life. After all, they carried me and protected my feet.

1. They were no good unless I put them on.
2. I had to lace them up nice and snug or they just would have flopped around and given me blisters.
3. They were particularly good when traveling on scree and talus.
4. They had awesome gripping power on rock.
5. They took the fear out of going into the difficult places, like muddy, rocky or slippery surfaces.
6. Occasionally, they needed to be resoled.

You can understand why I see these boots as a metaphor for life, particularly faith. Isn't it interesting that faith is described in the Bible as a gift (see Ephesians 2:8)? This is a gift that God the Father gives us. As such, it is no good unless we allow our faith to get some exercise and carry us through life.

My faith has taken me many places in my spiritual life. It has protected me from many dangers and mistakes. It had amazing gripping power to help me negotiate the dark valleys and narrow places. With my faith, the fear is gone.

Yes, sometimes my faith needs to be re-souled. I need periodic renewal. Just as the soles of my boots needed cleaning and brushing, likewise my faith-soul needs to be kept clean, and all the dirt and pebbles dug out and discarded.

This is the lesson I remember on Father's Day.

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: O God, may my faith keep my feet secure on the path of life. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** John 14-17
- Monday:** Hosea 11-14
- Tuesday:** 2 Kings 18-19
- Wednesday:** Isaiah 1-3
- Thursday:** Isaiah 4-6
- Friday:** Isaiah 7-9
- Saturday:** Psalms 64-66

Verse to Remember

“I am the way, and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

—John 14:6

THE PATH FROM 1 TO 100

Directions: Draw a pencil line from square 1 to square 100. You may do this only by moving to an adjacent square (horizontally, vertically or diagonally) whenever you can **add, subtract, multiply or divide the number in your present square by 2 or 5 to get the number in an adjacent square.** For example, from a square with a 6 in it, one could move to a 30 (6 x 5) or an 8 (6 + 2). Find a path from 1 to 100. **Solution below.**

ANACROSS: There are three clues for each 7-letter word: a definition, a pair of words that are an anagram of the answer, and the letter C already in the diagram. The center column reading down will reveal a bonus word.

1	5	7	20	30
2	3	22	6	28
4	25	8	14	19
20	16	13	55	95
18	9	50	59	100

C						
	C					
		C				
			C			
				C		
					C	
						C

<p style="text-align: center;">DEFINITIONS (from top row to bottom row)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Guilty one 2. School subject 3. New member 4. Chef’s domain 5. Skunk 6. Popeye’s veggie 7. Of the stomach 	<p style="text-align: center;">ANAGRAMS (from top row to bottom row)</p> <p>CLIP + RUT NICE + SEC CURT + IRE NECK + HIT CLAP + TOE CHIN + ASP GRIT + SAC</p>
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Solution to “The Path from 1 to 100” : 1-2-4-20-18-16-8-6-30-28-14-19-95-100.

Solution to ANACROSS:
culprit, science, recruit, kitchen, polecat, spinach, gastric.
Bonus word: percent